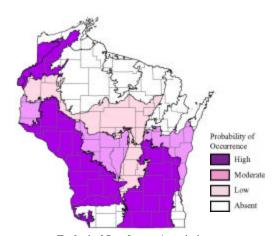
# River Redhorse (Moxostoma carinatum)

#### **Species Assessment Scores\***

State rarity:	4
State threats:	4
State population trend:	3
Global abundance:	4
Global distribution:	5
Global threats:	4
Global population trend:	3
Mean Risk Score:	3.9
Area of importance:	3

<sup>\*</sup> Please see the <u>Description of Vertebrate Species</u> <u>Summaries (Section 3.1.1)</u> for definitions of criteria and scores.



# Ecological Landscape Associations Please note that this is not a range map. Shading does not imply that the species is present throughout the Landscape, but represents the probability that the species occurs somewhere in the Landscape.

### **Landscape -community Combinations of Highest Ecological Priority**

Ecological Landscape	Community
Central Lake Michigan Coastal	Warmwater rivers
Central Sand Hills	Warmwater rivers
Central Sand Plains	Warmwater rivers
Forest Transition	Warmwater rivers
Northwest Lowlands	Warmwater rivers
Northwest Sands	Warmwater rivers
Southeast Glacial Plains	Warmwater rivers
Western Coulee and Ridges	Warmwater rivers
Western Prairie	Warmwater rivers

#### **Threats and Issues**

- Dams eliminate and fragmenting large river habitat preferred by this species and block upstream spawning migrations.
- Non-point source pollution from watershed urbanization and agriculture degrades habitat for this species; turbidity and other forms of pollution are believed to have been the major factors behind the extirpation of this species in other areas. Both river redhorses and their major food source (molluscs) are sensitive to siltation and pollution.
- This species is also vulnerable to point source pollution because of its limited occurrence in localized areas of large rivers.
- Alterations to the Mississippi River to aid commercial navigation, including lock and dam structures, degrade habitat and limit movement of this species.
- Information on the biology, status and trends of this species is needed.

## **Priority Conservation Actions**

- Protection of spawning areas (riffles) in large rivers where this species occurs is needed.
- Protection and restoration of large river habitat is needed for this large river specialist, which is found in local areas where the river channel is constricted sufficiently to cause water to flow rapidly over a hard, silt-free bottom.
- Fish passage at dams is needed to facilitate movement of this species, which migrates upriver to spawn.
- More information on population trends, recruitment, and movement patterns is needed to inform conservation efforts for this species.